

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 09 , 2022

RE: H.B. No. 2394
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness, to which was referred H.B. No. 2394 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAID PATIENT CARE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to provide one-time enhanced payments to nursing facilities caring for Medicaid patients to assist with pandemic-related costs and lost revenues.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from The Queen's Health Systems, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and Hawai'i Pacific Health. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services, Department of Budget and Finance, and Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.

Your Committee finds that during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, nursing facilities experienced significant hardships such as increased costs of labor, personal protective equipment, supplies, testing, and more. In addition to the increase in costs, many nursing facilities saw a decrease in their revenues, which further exacerbated the financial difficulties of nursing facilities in the State. Despite receiving some federal



relief, it only covered roughly thirty percent of the total pandemic-related losses. Your Committee acknowledges the work and dedication of nursing facilities but believes that many other health care facilities that were equally devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic also require financial support to continue providing necessary services to the citizens of the State.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:


- (1) Changing the appropriation amount to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Clarifying that any facility in the State that is licensed by Medicare to provide skilled nursing or intermediate care to Medicaid patients is eligible to receive enhanced payments;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that although your Committee changed the appropriation amount to an unspecified amount to encourage further discussion, the requested amount is \$13,000,000 for these enhanced payments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2394, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2394, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Pandemic &
Disaster Preparedness,


LINDA ICHIYAMA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness

Bill/Resolution No.: <i>HB 2394</i>	Committee Referral: <i>PDP, HHH, FIN</i>	Date: <i>2/3/22</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
PDP Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. ICHIYAMA, Linda (C)	✓			
2. ELI, Stacelynn K.M. (VC)	✓			
3. CULLEN, Ty J.K.				✓
4. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
5. MIZUNO, John M.	✓			
6. WILDBERGER, Tina	✓			
7. WOODSON, Justin H.				✓
8. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	✓			
9. WARD, Gene	✓			
TOTAL (9)	7	0	0	2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align:center; font-size: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <i>[Signature]</i>				
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